

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 467

By McDaniel

A RESOLUTION to commemorate the seventieth anniversary of the Lexington Lions Club.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly are pleased to commend those organizations whose members have banded together to serve their community, State, and nation through service projects and other activities; and

WHEREAS, the Lexington Lions Club, which is celebrating its seventieth anniversary this year, is an active and vital part of Lions Clubs International, the world's largest service club organization with 1.4 million members in more than 47,000 clubs in over 800 districts in more than 210 countries and geographic areas around the world who contribute to their local communities; and

WHEREAS, inspired by their motto, "We Serve," Lions provide assistance to blind and visually impaired persons, support our youth, provide disaster relief, and meet humanitarian needs; and

WHEREAS, a member of District 12-L, the Lexington Lions Club was organized on September 24, 1947, and chartered on November 10, 1947; and

WHEREAS, inspired by Helen Keller's challenge to become "knights of the blind in the crusade against darkness," the Lexington Lions focus on sight conservation, purchasing thousands of dollars' worth of eye glasses each year for the needy and sponsoring eye operations; and

WHEREAS, they also financially support leader dogs, recordings for the blind, mobile sight vans, and river blindness treatment and eye banks; sponsor eye and ear screenings in Henderson County schools; sponsor White Cane Days with 100 percent of the funds raised

used for sight conservation; and collect and recycle 1,000 pairs of used eye glasses each year; and

WHEREAS, the first and possibly the most significant project undertaken by the Lexington Lions Club was organizing Little League baseball in the community; the club still strongly supports this program today, as well as local Boy Scout and Girl Scout troops; and

WHEREAS, Lexington Lions also played a vital role in the international organization's fundraising efforts for disaster relief for the victims of the 2004 South Asian tsunami; a measles initiative that has vaccinated more than forty-three million children; and the Lions Quest Program, which has helped more than fourteen million young people develop the skills and strength of character needed to succeed as adults; and

WHEREAS, as the Lexington Lions celebrate their seventieth anniversary, we are confident that they will continue to effectively serve their community through volunteer work and fundraising and promote peace and international cooperation; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED TENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we join with the officers and members of the Lexington Lions Club in celebrating seventy years of outstanding service to their community, the State of Tennessee, this nation, and the world and extend to them our best wishes for much continued success in the future.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.